

St. Lawrence Church of England Primary School

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30th August 2021

Dear Parents

I hope that you have had a happy and healthy summer and that your children are looking forward to coming back to school on Thursday. I have had a couple of queries about routines over the past few days as people start to prepare for the new school year so I thought it best to contact you all with answers to some of them. I have added a few more bits and pieces of information that may be useful. There will, of course be further class-specific information coming out from teachers once we are back in school.

School start and finish times will remain as they were last year i.e. drop off between 08:45 and 09:00 and collection between 15:15 and 15:30. The only difference being, parents will now be able to accompany their child across the playground should they wish to do so. Children will still go straight into class. We have found that this leads to a much more settled start to the school day and helps with congestion on Jepps Ave. Collection points will still be in place for the end of the school day and children will continue to be released from class as their parent arrives. The collection points are all clearly signed and a member of staff will always be on duty at the start and end of the day to offer assistance. As a reminder, Nursery, EYFS and Year 4 enter and leave via the double carpark gates and everyone else via the school playground.

PE Kit - Children should continue to wear PE kits on PE days and will continue to have double PE lessons on those days to facilitate this. We have had a lot of positive feedback from parents about this and pupils and staff say that they also prefer it. PE lessons for the autumn term will start from Monday 6th September as follows:

- EYFS – Wednesday – Fundamental movement skills
- Year 1 – Thursday – Games
- Year 2 – Wednesday – Games
- Year 3 – Thursday - Rugby and Handball
- Year 4 – Friday - Dodgeball and Dance
- Year 5 – Tuesday – Hockey (plus swimming on **Friday mornings** until October half term)
- Year 6 – Monday – Netball and Rugby

Class teachers will let you know if any additional equipment is needed, e.g. shin pads etc.

As a reminder, PE kit consists of:

- plain white polo shirt (school logo allowed but not compulsory)
- plain black shorts, jog pants or leggings (weather dependent),
- plain black trainers (or as close to plain as you can get!).
- school sweatshirt or fleece

Stationery – children from Year 1 to Year 6 should continue to bring their own stationery equipment in a wipeable pencil case. This to include: pencil, eraser, pencil sharpener, 15cm ruler and wax crayons and pencil crayons (KS1) and felt tip pens and pencil crayons (KS2). We will continue to provide all other items of stationery including handwriting pens. The gnawed ends of the vast majority of children's pencils demonstrates the

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extent to which children chew on them, we therefore think it safer to continue to use personal rather than shared school stationery but if this presents any difficulty, please let a member of staff know.

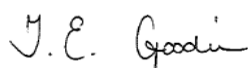
Self-isolation – the rules for self-isolation have changed. Children and double-vaccinated adults no longer need to self-isolate if they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19. As every member of staff is double vaccinated, everyone in school falls into this category. Therefore, pupils and staff will only need to self-isolate if they display symptoms of Covid-19 (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste). This means that we are not currently required to close any bubbles. Individuals who are self-isolating should continue to join their class lessons via Zoom as long as they are well enough to do so. Class teachers will make contact with families directly as and when necessary.

Playtimes, lunch times and worship. Due to the changes above, we no longer need to keep bubbles separate and are able to return to mixed playtimes and lunchtimes. We can also return to whole school worship. We are delighted about this and are all looking forward to getting our school family back together. These changes will be re-introduced slowly, moving to key stage mixing in the first instance, and will be carefully managed in order to avoid any unnecessary infection.

Uniform. It hasn't gone unnoticed that the weather has started to improve now that we are heading back to school (typical!). Please remember that children may continue to wear their summer uniform until October half term if they wish to do so. Please refer to the school uniform section of the school website (under Key Information) for details of correct school uniform - <https://www.st-lawrence.lancs.sch.uk/page/school-uniform/86412>

Finally, I wish you all a very happy last few days of August and look forward to seeing you all on Thursday 2nd September.

Yours sincerely



Julie Goodwin

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